

**Mansfield Commission on Aging Minutes**  
**9:30 AM – Senior Center**  
**April 12, 2010**

**PRESENT:** T. Quinn (Chair), B. Lavoie (staff), S. Gordon, M. Thatcher, J. Adamcik, A. Holinko, T. Rogers, C. Pellegrine, L. Bilokur (guest), E. Poirier, J. Terry (guest), W. Bigl, C. Phillips, J. Quarto, K. Doeg, M. Gerling (staff)

**REGRETS:** None

- I. **Call to Order:** Chair T. Quinn called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.
- II. **Appointment of Recording Secretary:** K. Grunwald agreed to take minutes for the meeting.
- III. **Acceptance of Minutes:** the minutes of the **March 8** meeting were accepted as written.
- IV. **Correspondence** – Chair and Staff: none.
- V. **New Business**
  - A. Waldo Klein from the State Commission on Aging was unable to attend.
  - B. Non-profit Agency Funding Requests: McSweeney Senior Center: J. Quarto presented information on their request for funding of \$3000. There are Mansfield residents who attend the Center, and they operate a dental clinic that has no income guidelines. They saw 54 Mansfield residents in the clinic last year, and only received \$1500 from the Town. They also saw 32 Mansfield residents for health screening. Joan recommended that they be funded for the full amount of the request. The general feeling is that this is an important service and they are not asking for an extensive amount of money. Recommendation approved unanimously.
  - C. Volunteer Driver Program: K. Grunwald provided a brief update on the Volunteer Driver program that is being developed by the Association and the Town. He is working on this along with Lida Bilokur and Marilyn Gerling. Some discussion about liability, driver screening, and the extent of the need for this service. C. Pellegrine will contact Lee Vida in Coventry to come to the Commission to talk about their program.
  - D. "Other": L. Bilokur feels that the senior community needs to be more vocal about their needs.

**VI. Optional Reports** on Services/Needs of Town Aging Populations

A. Health Care Services

Wellness Center and Wellness Program – Kevin Grunwald/Barbara Lavoie: Barbara is the new Senior Service Social Worker. She has worked at Juniper Hill for the past 11 years and also worked here on Saturdays. She received her MSW last year, and continues to work as a Choices Counselor for Senior Resources. She explained that Choices is a program that helps to educate seniors about Medicare, Medicaid, and prescription drug coverage. Some members raised questions about licensing and whether or not it's realistic for this to be a part-time position. She suggested that the new Resident Services Coordinator at Juniper Hill may be a good addition to the Commission as a representative from Juniper Hill.

B. Social, Recreational and Educational

Senior Center – Marilyn Gerling: distributed copies of her monthly report.

A. Caregiver's Exposition was held on March 31.

Senior Center Assoc. –Tom Rogers: reported that we celebrated Rose Ferrari's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday last month. Next Wednesday is the Volunteer Appreciation event at the Center. The by-laws revision will be going to the Association meeting in June for approval.

C. Housing

Assisted Living Advisory Committee, Wrights Way: J. Adamcik said that they are trying to get an answer on the proposed bus shelter. W. Bigl has looked into this and said that Public Works is planning on installing this.

D. Related Town and Regional Organizations such as:

Advisory Committee on the Needs of Persons with Disabilities, Senior Resources of Eastern CT: no reports.

**VII. Old Business**

A. Long Range Plan Update: K. Grunwald distributed a template to review the plan and asked members to do this and bring their comments to the next meeting.

B. Sub-Committee Report: New Senior Center: W. Bigl and J. Quarto reported that it appears that given other building projects this is not a priority right now. C. Phillips pointed out that there has been some discussion about converting one of the elementary schools to a senior center. J. Quarto feels that this option should be researched to keep the group open to the possibilities. T. Rogers agreed that this group needs to be proactive around this issue. The sub-committee will pursue this option.

C. Triad (W. Bigl): reported that his contact from People's Bank reported that they are not interested in dealing directly with the Commission and the

Association. T. Rogers clarified that this was the position of People's Bank corporate offices. Will met with the local branch staff, and scheduled a meeting this Wed. for Matt Hart, Jim Kodzis, Dave Dagon, K. Grunwald and representatives of the bank to discuss how to implement the program. He is willing to represent the Commission and the Association at this meeting.

**VIII. Adjournment**

**Meeting adjourned at 10:32 AM.** Next meeting: **Monday, May 10, 2010** at 9:30 AM at the Senior Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Grunwald